

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference WPP290037	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/003013	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/07/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/07/2003

Applicant

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 4

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F19/00 G01N33/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 IPC 7 G06F G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>EP 0 800 085 A (ORTHO CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS) 8 October 1997 (1997-10-08) abstract; claim 1; figure 1 page 2, line 3 – page 6, line 15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/-</p>	1-32

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"8" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

Date of mailing of the international search report

3 August 2005

11/08/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>BENATTAR C ET AL: "EFFICIENCY OF ULTRASOUND AND BIOCHEMICAL MARKERS FOR DOWN'S SYNDROME RISK SCREENING. A PROSPECTIVE STUDY" FETAL DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY, KARGER, BASEL, CH, vol. 14, no. 2, 1999, pages 112-117, XP000872100 ISSN: 1015-3837 abstract; tables 1,2 page 113, left-hand column, paragraph 1 - right-hand column, paragraph 3 page 115, left-hand column, paragraph 2 - page 116, right-hand column, paragraph 1</p> <p>-----</p>	1-32
A	<p>WO 99/56132 A (WALD, NICHOLAS, JOHN) 4 November 1999 (1999-11-04) cited in the application abstract; claim 1; tables 4a,4b page 7, line 3 - page 13, line 12 page 16, line 27 - page 22, line 23</p> <p>-----</p>	1-32

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0800085	A 08-10-1997	AT AU AU DE DE DK EP ES JP PT US	240525 T 723148 B2 1652597 A 69721889 D1 69721889 T2 800085 T3 0800085 A2 2198532 T3 10019889 A 800085 T 5906944 A	15-05-2003 17-08-2000 02-10-1997 18-06-2003 17-06-2004 08-09-2003 08-10-1997 01-02-2004 23-01-1998 30-09-2003 25-05-1999
WO 9956132	A 04-11-1999	AU AU CA EP WO US US	763171 B2 3621399 A 2330538 A1 1076824 A1 9956132 A1 6573103 B1 2003175981 A1	17-07-2003 16-11-1999 04-11-1999 21-02-2001 04-11-1999 03-06-2003 18-09-2003